

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
TEST MEASUREMENT AND DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT  
MARINE CORPS SYSTEMS COMMAND  
2200 LESTER STREET  
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IN REPLY REFER TO  
5000  
TMDE/VIS  
15 Jun 02

**MEMORANDUM**

From: Project Officer, Motion Media and Information Technology  
Systems  
To: Project Team Leader, Marine Corps Visual Information  
Systems

Subj: **TRIP REPORT FOR INFOCOMM 2002**

1. During the period of 11 through 15 June, I attended the InfoComm 2002 trade show in Las Vegas, Nevada. The purpose of this visit is to ascertain the current industry market both in capability and availability of presentation systems and ancillary equipment.

2. I will discuss the equipment manufacturers and their equipment, as well as the capability of the equipment that was demonstrated. I will also discuss the free training that was provided by industry manufacturers on several different topics.

3. Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) and Digital Light Processing (DLP) Projectors. The industry is rapidly turning to DLP Projectors. These projectors offer superior picture quality over LCD projectors, and Texas Instruments is the industry leader in DLP chip technology. Several companies are offering small, lightweight projectors, under four pounds, with a rating of 1000 ANSI lumens. Even though the picture quality is superior to that of LCD projectors, there is an increase in price for the procurement of this technology. I recommend that we continue to monitor this technology and continue to procure LCD projectors until such time that DLP projector prices are comparable to that of LCD projectors.

4. Plasma Displays. These unique display media offer very image quality, but procurement of these displays would be cost prohibitive in my opinion. Several companies offer very large plasma displays, measuring up to sixty-three inches diagonally. Though large enough to accommodate most conference rooms, these

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plasma displays have a cost of close to \$20,000.00, and really do not offer as much as DLP or LCD projector that can produce the same image size.

5. Control Systems. I reviewed several control systems, but the two major manufacturers of these control systems remain Crestron and AMX. AMX offers a control system that can be monitored and maintained via the Internet called NetLinks. Crestron's comparable system did not work when I viewed it on the trade show floor. I would recommend that we procure AMX control systems for all future MILCON and R2M2 projects, as well as for conference rooms and briefing rooms that we will have to equip in the future.

6. Audiovisual Support Equipment. The three major manufacturers that I viewed at this year's trade show were: Extron, InLine and Altinex. All three work with and can be controlled by AMX control systems. The most impressive thing that I saw was an all-in-one solution from Altinex. This system will allow for the inclusion of several different cards that can perform, DA functions and scaling functions on the same chassis. This will reduce the required amount of rack space to support an audiovisual presentation system. I recommend that we continue with our previously discussed plan to procure Extron support equipment until we have had the time to received performance data from Altinex and InLine. Both InLine and Extron are in the process of developing an all-in-one chassis as well.

7. Software. While touring the Fremont area of Las Vegas one evening, the Still Media Project Officer and I found software called EZScan that was being used in the open-air mall to extrude 3D models from picture scans. I recommend that we should procure and test this software for possible future applications.

8. Manufacturer's Training Sessions. These training sessions proved to be very beneficial. One of the training sessions was given by Hudson Photographic Industries, Inc. from Irvington, New York. Their training session on basics of rear projection geometry was an eye-opening training session and benefited our office immensely. I recommend that we continue to register for these free training sessions to further the pool of knowledge of the program office.

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9. Point of contact on this trip report is SSgt Maynard at ext 432-3260 or via e-mail at maynardma@mcsc.usmc.mil.

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